

housing adjacent one another in the longitudinal direction of said pressure housing and being joined such that said fluid is conducted through said stacks of membrane filter elements in a series flow pattern, each stack including a plurality of spaced filter elements in the form of membrane pillows arranged in spaced relationship around which fluid flow is conducted in a meander-like pattern through each stack.

Please amend claim 6 as follows:

6. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said membrane pillows are arranged in said stack displaced with respect to each other in said longitudinal direction such that each alternate membrane pillow has one end projecting from said stack and disposed in engagement with the adjacent separating element thereby forming flow reversal areas at each end of said stack between the projecting ends of two alternate membrane pillows.